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NURSERIES

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# The <sup>Evans &</sup> <sub>Reeves</sub> Grapevine

West Los Angeles

VOL. 3

Calif

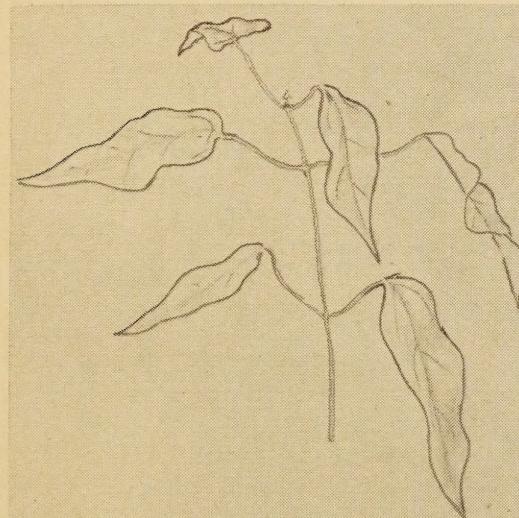
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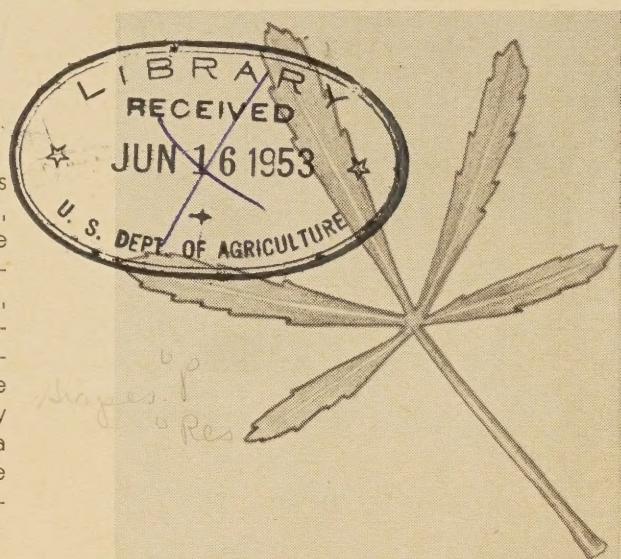
**MAPLE LEAF FOREVER?****IT'S DIFFERENT!**

Long, narrow, pendulous evergreen leaves foliate this Maple, *ACER OBLONGUM*, and about the only outstanding feature reminiscent of eastern Maples is the characteristic winged seed. And a good thing, too, for Maples are not outstanding successes as Southern California trees. However, our plant of the month is a notable exception to the poor record of its family here, for it grows with fair rapidity into a graceful tree suitable for the average home garden which can afford it some protection from heavy winds.

Requiring somewhat less pruning than most Maples and apparently not as troubled by borers, *A. oblongum* has gently drooping leaves, bronzy-tinged when new, which remain on the tree year-round, the new replacing the old so gradually and continually as to keep the tree fully green.



Planted from five gallon cans (\$5), it will make a 20-foot tree in five years, a graceful addition to the traditional garden where an attractive tree of small proportion is desired.

**FICKLE-PHYLLA****PSEUDOPANAX II**

We don't know how we got into this corner but we're beginning to think our April rare plant is so rare no one is quite sure what it is! It started out to be *PSEUDOPANAX FEROX*, that is, the seed was thus identified when dispatched to us. The resultant crop, however, now some two years old, is developing some very confusing characteristics. We checked pretty carefully the descriptions supplied by experts from the land of the plants' origin. After reading many pages on this genus, *Pseudopanax* that is, one fact emerges conspicuously: these plants are extremely variable in foliage, one has to practically live with any given plant for a decade or two while it undergoes as many as six complete leaf changes, to be even in the running when it comes to the final guess. We suspect that some of the formal horticultural authors were just as much confounded as we; they played it safe and just dismissed the whole thing as unimportant.

Well, anyway, with this fascinating background we command to your attention another fine New Zealand Aralia, with its

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## Rhyme in Season

The editor said, "Do not tarry,  
Get out your rhyming dictionary:  
Your apathy is almost treason—  
We've got to have your Rhyme in Season!"

So here I am, no inspiration,  
No witty phrase, no smart quotation.  
Is this the end—oh how can this be?  
The worst is, who is going to miss me?

This last thought's preying on my mind,  
My handkerchief I cannot find,  
Therefore I'll rest my pen today,  
And do a better job in May.

G.F.H.

## Hugh Evans

We read in the Bible (if we read the Bible) that Goliath was a prodigious man but not a particularly admirable character. However, when he encountered David, we read, David had all the best of it. Indeed, that was the last of Goliath.

Sometimes I think we have a tendency to regard flowers a little too much from the standpoint of their size. Although it is true that some flowers are improved by being a little larger, it is also true a flower can be so small as to seem insignificant. On the other hand, some of the most delightful flowering shrubs have panicles or racemes of small flowers well distributed all over the plant, causing a charming general effect.

I think some of the Cattleya and Cypripedium Orchids being bred nowadays are so large as to be almost intimidating. In England, however, where of course they are hopelessly old-fashioned, they are actually breeding these two Orchids to get a smaller flower with good form and good color, not the bizarre colors we see in these large Cypripediums. Not long ago while sitting at lunch at a nearby restaurant, a lady came into the room wearing seven of the largest Cattleyas I have ever seen in my life. They began under her chin and reached about to her waist ("Oh would some pow'r the giftie gie us, to see oursels as others see us"). The effect, to put it mildly, was rather distressing. This is not supposed to be an indictment of size but a plea for grace and beauty, and color and form, as well as size.

## IT'S TIME FOR . . .

The last spring flowers still in bloom, the first flowers of summer, and cuttings of Mums for next fall. It is also time for the inevitable chores of late spring (spring came and hurried by early this year!) and more than the usual concern for summer shade.

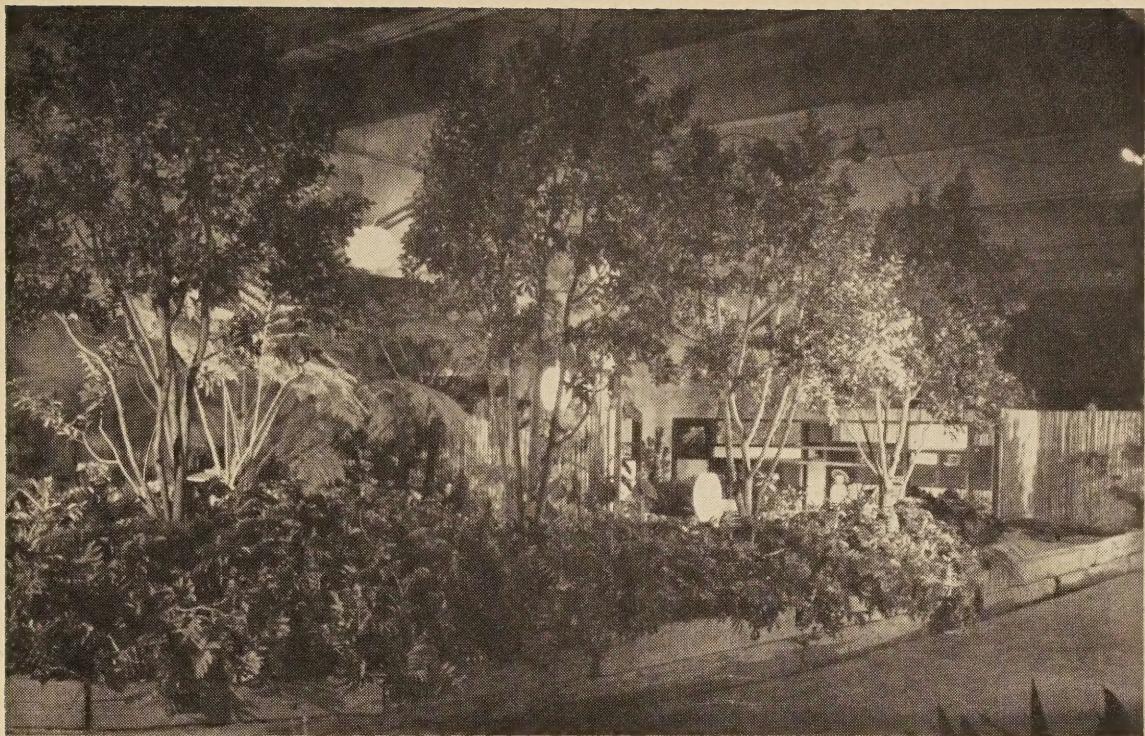
Our RHODODENDRONS are quite a sight this year despite the long, dry spring. They vary from pure white through lavender and shell pink to rose and good deep reds, \$8 and \$15 each, especially good plants that would be an addition to any shade garden with perfect drainage even if they never bloomed. But you look at the blooms. CINERARIAS and PRIMULA POLYANTHUS in pots, the former from \$1.25 and the latter at \$3.60 a dozen, are still showy for filling in immediate display. The same is true of ASTILBE and BLEEDING HEART, \$2 each.

ROSES in cans are already in full bloom. We don't have all the named varieties in a rose catalog, but we have quite a selection, and they are very good—\$3 and \$3.50 each. The first crop of CHRYSANTHEMUMS in plant bands is available, 25 cents each, and the first of the dwarf yellow cushion MUMS in cans we have at 90 cents in bloom; this color continues intermittently throughout next fall. For the most long-blooming low annuals we nominate PIGMY MARIGOLDS and AGERATUM, 45 cents a dozen. In the perennial department let us recommend again and again ASTER FRIKARTI, VERONICA SPICATA (lavender and blue, respectively); AGAPANTHUS, blue and white; MORAEA, and the ever-blooming yellow DAY-LILY, all 75 cents to \$1 each.

A whole article is usually devoted to PELARGONIUMS in May, but this year these flowers, too, are early. We call your attention particularly to Conspicuous, a good red; Brentwood, Lady Leslie, Ballerina and Santa Monica in pinks; and the incomparable white, Grace Armstrong. (85 cents and \$1.25.)

Three flowering subjects also blooming early are HYMENOSPORUM FLAVUM, the Sweet Shade, a small to medium tree with fragrant, yellow blooms, \$1.25 and \$4; CHIRANTHODENDRON PLATANOIDES, the Monkey Paw Tree, for fast tropical foliage, and dark red tulip-shaped flowers, each with a yellow-backed hand protruding; and BRUNFELSIA EXIMIA, the

(Continued on next page)



## **It's Time For . . .**

(Continued from opposite page)

deep blue scentless form of the Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow which doesn't grow so large as it's better known relative, *Brunfelsia floribunda*. The *Brunfelsias* appreciate part shade, a bit of acid and lots of water.

Two unusual golden-flowered subjects are now available in one-gallon cans—bushy *Kalanchoe coccinea*, with yellow blooms now, atop red-edged green foliage (\$1.50); and *Wachendorfia thrysiflora*, a new tuberous plant from South Africa destined to bring bold color to contemporary and tropic-toned plantings. The pleated, sword-shaped leaves will form a two or three-

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## **PSEUDOPANAX II**

(Continued from front page)

leathery, dark green foliage, bushy habit, great frost resistance and contemporary pattern, to say nothing of its never-a-dull-moment leaf structure! Present size and shape of leaves is about four inches and three to five fingered, size to be doubled in a year. Our plant is not demanding about soil, prefers a little afternoon shade.

Just ask for *Pseudopanax ferox* — or *crassifolium* or *discolor* — better still, bring this issue with you! The price is \$5 in five gallon cans. M.E.

## **Our Bower**

We hope you visited and enjoyed the California International Flower Show; we hope you particularly noticed and enjoyed the Evans and Reeves exhibit. If you didn't, we want to tell you about it; (if you did, we know you will pardon our pardonable pride). What we tried to do; or may we say, we succeeded in doing, was to demonstrate that outdoor living in a California garden can be pleasant for both the grown-ups and the youngsters at the same time and together.

Here was a neat, but comfortable terrace adjoining a neat, but exciting garden and right on the other side of an attractive redwood grille was Junior in a neat, but engrossing play yard, complete with sand box, pool, toy cupboards and a garden of his own. The lovely textured, wired sapling screens protected all from both the wind and the next-door neighbor. Being great believers in vitamins and chlorophyll for the small fry, we even had a miniature vegetable garden for Junior. (It's much easier to get him to eat raw carrots that way.)

Designed by our Eric Armstrong and executed by our landscape department, the whole idea was to demonstrate how you, too, can enjoy outdoor living in complete comfort in your own garden where you can keep an eye on Junior, who is also enjoying outdoor living! J.E.

# IT'S TIME FOR . . .

(Continued from inside page)

foot clump to be surmounted in early summer (of the second year) by tall spikes of bright yellow flowers. This latter is for sun and requires lots of moisture. (\$1.25).

To mention only one more flowering shrub, still blooming after many months, we commend again the hybrid LEPTOSPERMUMS, red, white, and pink, dwarf and tall, \$1.25, one gallon.

Now we turn to GARDEN CHORES—SPRAYING, FEEDING, CUTTING BACK AND PULLING OUT, AND MULCHING. Tie back bulb foliage, and pull out (bulb and all) the clumps which are old and poorly adapted to their locations. Prune back hard all flowering peaches now long past. Thin out and shape all trees and large shrubs damaged by February and March gales, especially Chinese Elms. More Elms get top heavy and blow over from lack of pruning and thinning than from any other reason. Also Elms do not belong in extremely windy areas—try one of the Ficus instead. Spray the entire garden again with nicotine or rotenone plus liquid Chlorthane 25 per cent.

It is time to remind you again of our old FORMULA FOR GREENING FOLIAGE—two tablespoons of Sulphate of Ammonia and three tablespoons of Irontone to one gallon of water, and one gallon of mixture to a plant of five-gallon size. Another excellent combination, in some ways better because it contains phosphoric acid, is Ammonium Phosphate and Irontone; this can be applied dissolved as per above or dry and watered in. Actually it should be worked beneath the surface. Be sure to FERTILIZE ALL CITRUS AND AVOCADO WHEN IN BLOOM — Sulphate of Ammonia well watered in at the drip line.

Finally, if you are tired of too many broadleaf evergreen trees but feel you need more high shade in summer, let us suggest some distinctive DECIDUOUS SUBJECTS FOR GOOD SUMMER SHADE AND EQUALY WELCOME WINTER SUN—*Tilia americana*, *Pistachia chinensis*, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, *Koelreuteria bipinnata*, *Eleagnus angustifolius* (the Russian Olive), all \$4 and \$4.50 in five-gallon cans. P.E.C.